

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 6 to 10 and 16 to 20 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter and amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A storage apparatus that connects to a removable medium, comprising:

a first ~~digital~~ interface unit having a first port; ~~and~~

a second ~~digital~~ interface unit having a second port~~[[,]]~~ ; ~~and~~

a control unit that controls the first port and the second port,

wherein said control unit sets the second port ~~is set~~ in a disabled state responsive to access of the removable medium through the first port by if a first external apparatus ~~connected to the first port, accesses a removable medium;~~ and

wherein said control unit sets the first port ~~is set~~ in the disabled state responsive to access of the removable medium through the second port by if a second external apparatus ~~connected to the second port accesses the removable medium.~~

2. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The storage apparatus according to claim 1, wherein if the first port is set in the disabled state, the first port is placed in a state where electrical connection with the first external apparatus is impossible, and

wherein if the second port is set in the disabled state, the second port is placed in a state where electrical connection with the second external apparatus is impossible.

3. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The storage apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said first ~~digital~~ interface ~~is pursuant unit conforms to one of an~~ IEEE1394-1995 standard and its extended standard an IEEE 1394-1995 standard or an IEEE 1394a-2000 standard.

4. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The storage apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said second ~~digital~~ interface ~~is pursuant unit conforms to one of a~~ a USB 1.1 standard and its extended or a USB 2.0 standard.

5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The storage apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the storage apparatus is a digital video camera.

6. to 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A storage apparatus that connects to a removable medium, comprising:

a first ~~digital~~ interface unit having a first port; and

a second ~~digital~~ interface unit having a second port[[,]];

a control unit that controls the first port and the second port; and
a determination unit that determines whether a first external apparatus is
capable of accessing the removable medium through the first port and that determines
whether a second external apparatus is capable of accessing the removable medium
through the second port,

~~wherein if the first digital interface receives a predetermined command; said~~
control unit sets the second port is set in a disabled state[[:]] responsive to a determination
that a first external apparatus connected to the first port is capable of accessing the
removable medium; and

~~wherein if the second digital interface receives the predetermined command;~~
said control unit sets the the first port is set in the disabled state responsive to a
determination that a second external apparatus connected to the second port is capable of
accessing the removable medium.

12. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The storage apparatus according to claim
11, wherein if the first port is set in the disabled state, the first port is placed in a state
where electrical connection with the first external apparatus is impossible, and
wherein if the second port is set in the disabled state, the second port is
placed in a state where electrical connection with the second external apparatus is
impossible.

13. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The storage apparatus according to claim

11, wherein ~~the said first digital interface is pursuant~~ unit conforms to one of an IEEE1394-1995 standard and its extended standard an IEEE 1394-1995 standard or an IEEE 1394a-2000 standard.

14. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The storage apparatus according to claim 11, wherein ~~the said second digital interface is pursuant~~ unit conforms to one of a USB 1.1 standard and its extended or a USB 2.0 standard.

15. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The storage apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the storage apparatus is a digital video camera.

16. to 20. (Canceled)